



CITRUS ABANDONED ACRES

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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September 22, 2011

Abandoned Acreage Down 5 percent

In combination with the latest commercial citrus tree inventory, abandoned citrus groves were also identified. Experienced agricultural personnel evaluated tree condition and made an overall assessment of citrus groves contained in the maps of Florida citrus growing areas. The amount of abandoned citrus acreage is updated and published on an annual basis to keep pace with constant changes. Some citrus groves previously identified as abandoned have been removed and destroyed. Additional groves are added each year when they meet the abandoned grove criteria.

A grove is considered abandoned when the following conditions exist: no production care during the past 2 years, no weed control or grass mowing, livestock present, weather damage, neglected trees that are not economically feasible to maintain, or no commercial harvest during the last 2 seasons. In some cases, property owners or caretakers were contacted and questioned regarding future use of their citrus groves.

The Indian River District leads with 50,658 abandoned acres, or 37 percent of the total. The greatest increase of abandoned acres is 690 in Okeechobee County. Increases in total abandoned acreage occurred only in the Northern area. Eight of the counties have more abandoned grove acres compared to the last survey, and 4 counties had an increase in understory acres. Results of this survey include 5,388 understory acres comprised of pine stands and forested areas with abandoned, unintentional, or feral citrus trees scattered under their canopy. These acres pose a potential threat as a possible source of pests and diseases.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by County and Survey Year

County	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Brevard	596	589	581	6,056	5,763	5,166	70	70	70	6,126	5,833	5,236
Charlotte	194	191	179	2,481	2,606	2,431	-	-	-	2,481	2,606	2,431
Citrus.....	11	11	11	175	120	120	27	90	90	202	210	210
Collier.....	27	22	17	430	338	256	-	-	-	430	338	256
DeSoto.....	488	388	364	5,343	3,498	3,393	-	-	-	5,343	3,498	3,393
Glades.....	35	46	48	565	769	809	-	-	-	565	769	809
Hardee	446	410	384	3,195	3,152	2,844	-	-	-	3,195	3,152	2,844
Hendry	416	434	357	12,399	12,575	8,809	37	37	37	12,436	12,612	8,846
Hernando	51	49	55	933	909	938	11	37	37	944	946	975
Highlands	194	200	206	2,147	2,393	2,540	-	-	-	2,147	2,393	2,540
Hillsborough	522	577	580	4,358	5,217	4,815	-	-	-	4,358	5,217	4,815
Indian River	792	724	734	13,234	11,947	12,118	-	124	124	13,234	12,071	12,242
Lake	809	928	946	9,766	10,230	9,911	1,242	2,287	2,727	11,008	12,517	12,638
Lee	109	110	101	897	825	796	-	-	-	897	825	796
Manatee	336	348	324	3,226	3,460	3,232	-	-	-	3,226	3,460	3,232
Marion	26	57	58	213	310	317	82	573	573	295	883	890
Martin	387	451	586	14,827	17,541	17,368	-	-	-	14,827	17,541	17,368
Okeechobee.....	87	100	145	1,998	1,984	2,674	-	-	-	1,998	1,984	2,674
Orange	273	297	291	2,621	3,197	3,245	49	100	320	2,670	3,297	3,565
Osceola.....	360	348	347	3,315	3,036	2,930	-	237	-	3,315	3,278	2,930
Palm Beach.....	169	176	180	5,618	5,936	6,071	-	-	-	5,618	5,936	6,071
Pasco	236	227	219	2,160	2,085	1,963	271	316	332	2,431	2,401	2,295
Polk.....	1,343	1,266	1,176	11,712	10,791	9,339	118	315	410	11,830	11,106	9,749
Putnam.....	12	13	15	98	101	85	-	-	-	98	101	85
St. Lucie	911	1,019	1,050	26,807	27,321	26,685	548	548	548	27,355	27,869	27,233
Sarasota.....	18	18	18	132	131	131	-	-	-	132	131	131
Seminole	93	79	77	646	483	440	-	8	8	646	491	447
Volusia	192	199	193	1,707	1,727	1,675	-	112	112	1,707	1,839	1,787
Others ¹	11	10	17	85	71	45	-	-	-	85	71	45
Total	9,144	9,287	9,259	137,144	138,516	131,146	2,455	4,854	5,388	139,599	143,370	136,534

- Represents zero.

¹ Alachua and Pinellas counties.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by Production Area and Survey Year

Production Area	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Indian River	2,474	2,543	2,621	50,847	50,412	49,874	548	784	784	51,395	51,196	50,658
Northern Area	1,658	1,819	1,820	17,852	18,728	18,191	1,682	3,410	4,086	19,534	22,138	22,277
Central Area	1,936	1,849	1,764	18,571	17,511	16,064	188	623	480	18,759	18,134	16,544
Western Area	1,813	1,743	1,672	16,311	15,500	14,414	-	-	-	16,311	15,500	14,414
Southern Area	1,263	1,333	1,382	33,563	36,365	32,603	37	37	37	33,600	36,402	32,640
Total	9,144	9,287	9,259	137,144	138,516	131,146	2,455	4,854	5,388	139,599	143,370	136,534

- Represents zero.

